



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

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# News Release

## ICE DEPORTS MAN WHO SEXUALLY ABUSED STEPDAUGHTER

**PHILADELPHIA, Pa.** – A man allowed to come to the United States to marry a U.S. citizen was deported by officers of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) after being convicted of sexually abusing children, including his own 6-year-old stepdaughter.

ICE Detention and Removal officers escorted Peter Marius Dekker back to the Netherlands on April 26. Dekker had been legally admitted to the United States in October 1999 on a fiancé visa to marry a U.S. citizen. After the marriage, in April 2000, he was granted status as a conditional permanent resident.

However, Dekker's wife later discovered 60 images of child pornography on the family computer and contacted the Hilltown, Pa. Police Department. The investigation also uncovered photos of a sexual nature containing images of Dekker and his 6-year-old stepdaughter.



On November 22, 2004, Dekker was convicted in Bucks County, Pa. on 60 counts sexual abuse of children. ICE officers took him into custody after he served his sentence and removed him from the United States.

"This man betrayed his wife and his stepdaughter, and he also betrayed the trust of the American people," said Thomas Decker, Field Office Director of ICE's Detention and Removal Operations in Philadelphia. "Anyone granted the privilege of immigration to the United States must respect our laws and our children. Those who do not will be removed."

Dekker's removal from the United States is part of ICE's Operation Predator, a comprehensive initiative designed to protect young people from alien smugglers, human traffickers, child pornographers and other predatory criminals.

Operation Predator draws on the full spectrum of intelligence, investigative, cyber and detention and removal functions of ICE to target those who exploit children. Since Operation Predator was launched in July 2003, ICE agents have arrested more than 5,300 individuals.

ICE encourages the reporting of suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. Investigators staff this hotline around the clock.

Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>.

# ICE #

*ICE, the primary investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security, was established to bring a unified focus to the enforcement of U.S. immigration and customs laws, with the principal goal of preventing violations by terrorists and other criminals who threaten the nation's security.*